

Message Text

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ORIGIN SCSE-00

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DRAFTED BY SCA/SCS:EMARNOLD:SJD

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

UNCLAS STATE 016054

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, CDES, ET (ANTLES, PETER AND HAMMAT, WILLIAM)

SUBJECT: DISPOSITION OF EFFECTS, ISSUANCE OF FS-192

REF: ADDIS ABABA 12087 AND PREVIOUS

1. IN AS MUCH AS MORE THAN ONE YEAR HAS NOW PASSED SINCE THE MEN WERE LAST SEEN, THE EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO REPORT TO THE DEPARTMENT THE STATUS OF THIS CASE, THE STATUS OF THE EMBASSY'S REQUESTS TO THE ETHIOPIAN AUTHORITIES FOR DOCUMENTATION, AND THE PROSPECTS FOR ISSUANCE OF FS-192S ON THE BASIS OF THE DISAPPEARANCE AND PRESUMPTIVE DEATH OF PETER ANTLES AND WILLIAM HAMMAT.

2. MARK DORFMAN, 222 SOUTH HAMILTON, MADISON, WISCONSIN 53703, ATTORNEY FOR MRS. JANE HAMMAT, HAS AGAIN REQUESTED THE DEPARTMENT'S ASSISTANCE IN OBTAINING THE FS-192 TO SUPPORT COURT ACTION IN WISCONSIN.

3. QUESTION OF RELEASING THE BOX DESCRIBED IN THE REFTEL (QTE THE BOX UNQTE) AND THE EFFECTS OF THE TWO MEN STILL HELD BY THE EMBASSY WAS DISCUSSED RECENTLY WITH DORFMAN. THE DEPARTMENT (SCS & L/SCA) MADE THE FOLLOWING PROPOSALS REGARDING THE EFFECTS, SUBJECT TO EMBASSY'S REVIEW. THE EMBASSY'S COMMENTS ON THEIR FEASIBILITY UNDER ETHIOPIAN UNCLASSIFIED

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LAW AND PREVAILING CONDITIONS IS REQUESTED.

A. TO OBTAIN RELEASE OF THE BOX, WHICH MAY CONTAIN EXPOSED FILM, THE FOLLOWING PROCEDURE MIGHT BE USED: MRS. PETER ANTLES AND MRS. WILLIAM HAMMAT SHOULD EXECUTE AN AFFIDAVIT JOINTLY REQUESTING THE EMBASSY TO FORWARD THE BOX AT THEIR EXPENSE TO AN ADDRESS AND ADDRESSEE IN THE U.S. DESIGNATED BY THEM.

B. TO OBTAIN RELEASE OF THE OTHER EFFECTS, THE WIVES MIGHT JOINTLY OR SEPARATELY EXECUTE AN AFFIDAVIT(S) WHICH WOULD INCLUDE A STATEMENT OF THEIR RELATIONSHIP TO THE MISSING MEN AND REQUEST THAT THE EFFECTS NOW HELD BY THE EMBASSY BE EITHER (1) RELEASED TO THEIR DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVE IN ADDIS ABABA FOR DISPOSITION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THEIR INSTRUCTIONS, OR (2) SHIPPED TO THEMSELVES IN ONE LOT TO ONE ADDRESS IN THE U.S., AGREED UPON BY THEM AND AT THEIR EXPENSE.

4. HOWEVER, IF THE EMBASSY HAS ALREADY OBTAINED THE NECESSARY DOCUMENTATION FROM THE ETHIOPIAN AUTHORITIES TO PERMIT THE ISSUANCE OF PRESUMPTIVE DEATH REPORTS, THE EMBASSY SHOULD, OF COURSE, PROCEED AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE TO INVENTORY AND DISPOSE OF THE EFFECTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH PROVISIONS OF 7 FAM 445 AND 446. SISCO

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